

Hmar language

The **Hmar language** belongs to the Kukish branch of the Sino-Tibetan family of languages. The speakers of the language are also known as Hmar. According to the official 2011 Census of India, there are 50,561 Hmar speakers in Assam, 48,375 in Manipur, 69,175 in Tripura, 1,700 in Meghalaya, 29,587 in Mizoram although Majority of the Hmars in Mizoram speak Duhlian (Mizo).

Hmar is a recognised language in the School curriculum of Assam, Manipur and Mizoram, and also recently recognised as one of the Modern Indian Language (MIL) at Manipur University. Board of Secondary Education, Assam has also included Hmar as an MIL in its matriculation syllabus from 2005. Both Manipur University and Assam University, Silchar has also permitted Hmar language to be studied as Modern Indian Language in the Graduation level.

Geographical distribution

Hmar is spoken in the following locations

- Assam: Dima Hasao district (formerly North Cachar district), Karbi Anglong district, Barak Valley (Hailakandi district, Karimganj district and Cachar district)
- Manipur: Pherzawl district, Churachandpur district, Jiribam district, Imphal and Moreh
- Mizoram: Aizawl district, Champhai district and Kolasib district
- Tripura: In and around Darchawi and Jampui Hills
- Meghalaya: Shillong and Khaddum village
- Myanmar: Tamu
- Bangladesh: Bawm

Since Hmar speakers are scattered over a vast area in Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Chittagong Hill tracts, NC Hills and Cachar district of Assam state and Myanmar, there appears to be slight dialectal distinction. There is no homogeneous settlement of Hmar speakers alone. In Manipur, Hmar exhibits partial mutual intelligibility with the other Kukish dialects of the area including Thadou, Paite, Vaiphei, Simte, Kom and Gangte languages.^[3]

Hmar	
Manmasi, Sinlung, Mar	
Pronunciation	[m̥a]
Native to	India
Region	Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, Tripura, and Meghalaya
Ethnicity	Hmar
Native speakers	200,000+[1]
Language family	Sino-Tibetan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tibeto-Burman ▪ South Central ▪ Central ▪ Hmar cluster ▪ Hmar
Early forms	Manmasi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nelachal ▪ Tukbemsawm
Writing system	Latin
Official status	
Official language in	India
Recognised minority language in	Assam, Manipur, Mizoram and Meghalaya
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	hmr
Glottolog	hmar1241 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/hmar1241) ^[2]

References

1. "Statement 1: Abstract of speakers' strength of languages and mother tongues - 2011" (http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011Census/Language_MTs.html). www.censusindia.gov.in. Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India. Retrieved 7 July 2018.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Hmar" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/hmar1241>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Singh, Chungkham Yashawanta (1995). "The linguistic situation in Manipur" (<http://sealang.net/sala/archives/pdf8/singh1995linguistic.pdf>) (PDF). *Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area*. **18** (1): 129–134. Retrieved 19 June 2014.

External links

- VIRTHL-Ushering Change: News & Info House of the Hmars [Visit Site](http://www.virthli.in/) (<http://www.virthli.in/>)
- Hmar Rûnpui : Hmar Social Networking [Visit Site](https://web.archive.org/web/20120226143103/http://www.hmarrunpui.com/) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20120226143103/http://www.hmarrunpui.com/>)
- Manipur Online *The Unresolved Issues of the Hmar* (https://web.archive.org/web/20060424100356/http://www.manipuronline.com/Features/June2002/hmar11_2.htm)
- [Hmar.in](http://hmar.in) (<http://hmar.in>)
- [Hmarram.com](http://hmarram.com) (<http://hmarram.com>)
- Sinlung News [1] (<http://sinlung.com>)

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